

South Dakota MILK PRODUCTION

News Release

October 17, 2003

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2003 MILK PRODUCTION UP

SIOUX FALLS, October 17, 2003 -- The July - September 2003 quarterly milk production for South Dakota totaled 360 million pounds, 6 percent above last year, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down 5 percent from the recent five-year average of 377 million pounds.

The average number of milk cows during the quarter, at 89,000, was 7,000 head below a year ago and 2,000 head below last quarter. Third quarter milk production per cow, at 4,040 pounds, is 500 pounds above the third quarter last year and 20 pounds above the April - June quarter this year.

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